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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim $\frac{1}{2}$ 11, wherein the closure body is made from metal.

- 3. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 2, wherein the closure body is made from a metal with high thermal conductivity.
- 4. (Cancelled)
- 5. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim—4 11, wherein the recess of the closure body tapers from its end toward the interior of the closure body.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim $\frac{5}{11}$, wherein the recess in the closure body has a concave shape.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim $\frac{5}{11}$, wherein the recess in the closure body has a conical shape.
- 8. (Cancelled)
- 9. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 8 <u>11</u>, wherein the outer surface of the closure body is provided with a groove adapted to receive a sealing ring.
- 10. (Cancelled)

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11. (Currently Amended) Ash collector for smokers, comprising a bar-shaped container with an opening on one end that is closed by a removable closure body which is a solid, comprises a recess on an end facing the interior of the container and consists, in full or predominantly, of a material resistant to glowing ash of cigarettes or cigars,

wherein the thermal capacity of the <u>solid</u> closure body is selected to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar, which is pressed against the <u>recess of the plug</u> closure body, will be extinguished within a few seconds; and when a cigar or a cigarette is stubbed out in a recess of the closure body, without increasing the temperature of its outer surface will not rise above 50° Celsius.

- 12. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim $\frac{1}{2}$ 11, wherein a clip is attached to the closure body.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim \pm 11, wherein the container is made from metal.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 13, wherein the container consists of a metal suited for deep-drawing.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 13 wherein the container is made from aluminum or an aluminum alloy.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim \pm 11, wherein the container is a molded plastic part.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{11}{2}$, wherein the container has an outer diameter of 10mm to 15mm.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim \pm 11, wherein the container has a length of 10cm to 15cm.
- 19. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim \pm 11, wherein in addition to a chamber intended to collect ashes it further comprises a second chamber that is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim \pm <u>11</u>, comprising an integrated flashlight.

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21. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 19, wherein the second chamber accommodates a flashlight or parts thereof.

- 22. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 21, wherein the end of the container opposite the closure body is provided with a sleeve which is detachably connected with the container and which accommodates a bulb.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 22, wherein the sleeve further accommodates a reflector and a glass pane closing off the sleeve.
- 24. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{11}{2}$, further comprising an integrated cigarette lighter.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 24, wherein the cigarette lighter is provided in a second chamber, said second chamber is provided in the container and is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 23, wherein the cigarette lighter is protected by a removable cap.
- 27. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 26, wherein the cap is pivotably mounted on the container.
- 28. (Cancelled)
- 29. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 3, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper and brass.
- 30. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim $4\ \underline{1}$, wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar which is pressed into the recess will be extinguished within a few seconds.
- 31. (Cancelled)
- 32. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 17 wherein the container has an outer diameter of about 12mm.